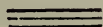


KINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

HEREFORDSHIRE



Annual Report on the state of the Public Health for the Year 1942.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

H. F. Green, M.A., M.B., D.P.H. (on War Service from 17-7-42).

*Acting Medical Officer of Health (Deputy County Medical
Officer):*

I. F. MacKenzie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Area Medical Offices:

4, Church Street, Leominster. (Tel. Leom. 95).

Clerk in Northern Area Medical Office:

B. J. Scandrett. (On War Service from 1939).

Temporary Clerk: Miss D. M. J. Bramfitt.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (Part-Time): J. P. Lingen.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kington Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the Year 1942.

It has been drawn up in accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry that the Annual reports of Medical Officers of Health may be interim during the period of war emergency.

My duties as Acting Medical Officer, which commenced on 17th July, 1942, on the departure of your Medical Officer of Health for service with H.M. Forces, have been rendered less onerous by the ready and efficient assistance which has been given me throughout the year by your Sanitary Inspector. It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of acknowledging my indebtedness to him.

I would like to place on record also my appreciation of the painstaking manner in which the clerk in the Area Office has discharged her duties.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. F. MACKENZIE.

Acting Area Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1943.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	45544
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	1381
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£1,387
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£63/13/10

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year:

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 14.0

Stillbirths—Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ... 73.1

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... 10.5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes: There were no deaths during 1942 from puerperal or other maternal causes.

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age:

There were 2 deaths of infants less than one year old. This corresponds to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 26.3.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

Laboratory Facilities:

Laboratory facilities continued to be available at the County Public Health Laboratory, Hereford. During the year the laboratory came under the direct administration of the Medical Research Council as a war-time measure.

Clinics: There are no clinics provided by the authority. Under a County Council Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in Kington, which residents in the Rural District are invited to attend.

The nearest Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the County Council Hospital, Hereford.

I am indebted to Mr. J. P. Lingen, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Sections C. to E.) furnished under Article 27 (Sub-section 18) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES THE AREA.

Water: Sampling.

Samples are taken as and when required. Most of the villages are dependent upon wells the majority of which are of a shallow type. The village of Pembridge is solely dependent on wells and hand pumps. As there is a Sewage Works here, it is, in my opinion, essential that a piped supply be provided as soon as possible.

Section C.—Continued.

Drainage and Sewerage:

Three of the Villages have Sewage Works. They are Pembridge, Lyonshall, and Eardisley. The Eardisley works have not functioned properly during the year and improvement work will require to be undertaken soon.

Rivers and Streams:

No pollution that calls for any comment. No complaints were received.

Refuse Disposal:

There are three refuse disposal centres which are under the control of the Council and which operate satisfactorily.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

Inspections: During the year 475 visits of inspection were made.

Number of Inspections under the Housing and Public	
Health Acts	138
Number of Inspections under Workshops and Factories	
Acts	60
Number of Inspections under the Milk and Daries Acts	125
Number of Inspections in connection with Water Supplies	98
Infectious Disease and visits in connection therewith ...	24
Premises and Clothing (lots) disinfected	30

Notices Issued:

Informal	24
Statutory	Nil
Defects Remedied	24

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts ... 64
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 132
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation 20

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

- (a) By Owners 20
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Forty-two Inspections were carried out during the year of premises where meat and other foods are sold by retail. I found these shops to be clean and well kept. Where the foods were found to be in a bad condition and had to be destroyed the trouble arose through delay in transit.

Food found to be unfit for human consumption:

Four lots of Butcher's Meat	...	total 200lbs.
Canned Fruits and Meats	...	total 3 dozen tins.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

No epidemic occurred within the Rural District Council's area during the year under review and the number of notifications made was relatively low.

There were two instances of Scarlet Fever and only one of Diphtheria. Measles and Whooping Cough provided the highest figures; there being nine cases of Measles and eight of Whooping Cough. One notification in respect of Puerperal Pyrexia and one on account of Erysipelas was received.

There is set out in the appended table an analysis of all the cases according to age.

Disease.	Age of Patient.													Total
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	Over 40	
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	8
Diphtheria (inc. Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	4	—	—	1	—	9
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Infl.)...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	7
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Particulars of the number of children immunised from the commencement of the campaign in 1941 until the end of 1942 are provided in the accompanying table. The percentages of treated children in the two age groups in the district are also given.

Under 5 years of age.		Between 5 and 15 years of age.	
Number.	Percentage of Group.	Number.	Percentage of Group.
100	39.83 %	525	92.90 %

Tuberculosis.

At the end of 1942 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of 9 males and 11 females who normally reside in the Council's area.

During the year four new cases were notified, two on account of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two because of the presence of the disease in parts of the body other than the lungs. During the same period one death occurred from this disease.

